

**Minutes of the meeting of Desborough Town Council
held in Desborough Library (streamed online by Zoom) on Thursday 16 June 2022**

Councillors present: H Wood (Chair), A Coleman, D Cornwall, J French, T Healy, D Larmour, B Murphy-Ryan, S Roberts, P Sawford, and A Window

Councillors not present: J Gardiner

Also present: Chief Insp Murray, Det Chief Insp Rodgers, Insp Little, Sgt McInulty, NNC Cllr Howes, G Thomson (Town Clerk), and up to 5 members of the community in person and by Zoom.

Councillor Wood welcomed those present to the meeting and outlined the health and safety requirements.

21./22 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO APPROVE REASONS FOR ABSENCE WHERE APPROPRIATE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr Gardiner.

RESOLVED that:-
the apology be noted.

22./22 TO NOTE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM COUNCILLORS

No declarations of interest were made

RESOLVED that:-
the information be noted.

23./22 TO CONSIDER ANY REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

It was reported that no requests for dispensation had been made.

RESOLVED that:-
the information be noted.

24./22 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 MAY 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2022 had been circulated and it was

RESOLVED that:-
the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

25./22 TO HEAR REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A member of the public spoke about the planning application for the Ise Valley and urged people to register their objections with the Planning Authority.

26./22 TO CONSIDER POLICING MATTERS AND NOTE THE LATEST CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR FIGURES

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The most up-to-date figures are available on the Council's website [here](#).

Chief Inspector Murray spoke about policing matters and explained that investigations were being carried out by CID rather than the local team. He confirmed that some formal statements were now being submitted and the Police were working with members of the community to give support and to receive statements. He stated that although he was prevented from giving full details of police action or details of any particular case he assured the meeting that there was activity on a daily basis. In response to questions, Chief Inspector Murray undertook to provide the Town Council with details of local police surgeries.

Following a general discussion the Police were thanked for their attendance and they left the meeting.

27./22 TO CONSIDER ANY UPDATE ON THE LAWRENCE FACTORY SITE AND THE DESBOROUGH CONSERVATION AREA

It was reported that it was hoped that positive information would be received from Historic England in regard to the supermarket proposals for the site in the following week. It was noted that there appeared to be no formal mechanism to challenge decisions of Historic England.

RESOLVED that:-

- i) the information be noted; and,
- ii) consideration be given to writing to the Chief Executive of Historic England depending on the response of Historic England to the supermarket proposals.

28./22 COUNCIL VACANCY**28.1./22 TO NOTE THE SITUATION WITH THE COUNCIL VACANCY**

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

Due to the resignation of councillor Linda Burnham, a vacancy now exists in the office of Councillor for Desborough Town Council, Loatland Ward. If by 23 June 2022, a request for an election to fill the vacancy is made in writing to the Proper Officer, North Northamptonshire Council by TEN electors for the Parish, an election will be held to fill the vacancy. If no such request is received the Parish Council may fill the vacancy by co-option. If an election is called, it will take place no later than 26 August 2022.

RESOLVED that:-

the information be noted.

28.2./22 TO CONSIDER FILLING VACANCIES ON INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL BODIES

RESOLVED that:-

- i) Cllr Window be appointed as Armed Services Champion;
- ii) Cllr Healy be appointed as Internal Review Councillor; and,
- iii) Cllr Gardiner be authorised to attend the Rothwell North Working Party reporting back to the Council.

29./22 TO RECEIVE ANY REPORTS FROM UNITARY COUNCILLORS

NNC Cllr Howes reported that complaints of speeding on Dunkirk Avenue near the pedestrian crossing had been received and he requested that one of the Town Council's speed indicator signs be relocated. He stated that the Unitary Council had signed an agreement with the library and that the customer service desk would be returning to Desborough library. With regard to bus shelters he stated that there was a question mark over the ownership of the Braybrooke Road shelter near the football ground. The Town Clerk stated that his previous investigations had led to a belief that the shelter was constructed in or before 1971 thus predating the Town Council.

In relation to play provision for people with disabilities, it was reported that a swing had been removed from the Dunkirk Avenue recreation area following vandalism and could be replaced by a basket swing. NNC Cllr Howes stated that there was already a basket swing in the rec but one could be installed in the Rushton Road play area.

In connection with the condition of the surface of Dunkirk Avenue NNC Cllr Howes stated that the resurfacing was not currently on the schedule for resurfacing. Following a discussion a formal request was made for the resurfacing to be carried out as soon as possible.

RESOLVED that:-

the information be noted.

30./22 TO RECEIVE ANY REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY GROUPS AND REPRESENTATIVES

No reports were presented.

31./22 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE PROPOSED NATURAL PLAY AREA ON DESBOROUGH GREENSPACE

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

As members will be aware, there has been a longstanding project for the creation of a natural play area in the Desborough Greenspace using the £20,000 received from developers under Section 106 via the then Kettering Borough Council. No money from the Council tax precept was to be involved. In addition to tree planting, there was to be the installation of a "natural play area" in the Greenspace using natural materials (such as wood and stone – not metal) resulting in something similar to the wooden elements of the Rushton Road play area.

It has recently been discovered that despite the Town Council being advised by Kettering Borough Council officers on a number of occasions that the Town Council held the money (which there was no reason to doubt at that time), no evidence has been found that the money was transferred to the Town Council nor crucially that the Town Council approved the acceptance of the money (in accordance with Section 139 of the Local Government Act 1972 as would be required). There seems to have been an intention for it to happen and a belief amongst some officers at the Borough Council that it had happened but I can find no record of the money being received by the Town Council.

The relevant Section 106 agreement would have been between the developer and Kettering Borough Council. The Town Council is not normally involved in discussions between developers and the planning authority and there is no evidence that the Town Council was involved in this

particular case. The land in question was then in the ownership of the Borough Council (now North Northamptonshire Council).

The land is owned by North Northamptonshire Council and it also (presumably) still holds the money for this project. The money which the Town Council has set aside for this project has come from the Town Council's precepts rather than external sources.

The Council is REQUESTED to consider the future of the project.

It was noted that the Planning Authority had been requested to provide evidence that the money had been transferred to the Town Council.

RESOLVED that:-

- i) the NNC be requested to provide evidence that the money had been transferred to the Town Council and provide a copy of the S106 agreement; and,
- ii) a briefing session on S106 be arranged.

32./21

TO RECEIVE AN ORAL UPDATE ON PROJECTS

The Town Clerk gave an oral update on projects: the solar power supply for the speed signs - seeking alternative providers; the extension of the CCTV provision - remaining post to be installed; the proposals for power supplies in the highway - locations being identified and outline costs calculated; flagpole - suitable locations being sought then consents will be sought; pride flag - the building owners withheld consent the Town Council to fly a pride flag on the building.

RESOLVED that:-

the reasons for the refusal of permission to fly the flag be requested.

33./22

TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE EVENTS COMMITTEE ON THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS AND TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

It was reported that the picnic in the park at the Dunkirk Avenue Recreation Ground had been successful although the weather had turned at the end of the event. During a short discussion it was noted that there were things the Council could learn for future events. Thanks were given to all those who helped with the event.

It was noted that the Town Centre Partnership (TCP) had indicated it wished to hand over the 1940s Day and the Desborough Gala to the Town Council to organise, although no formal approach had been received. It was reported that preliminary arrangements had been made for the 1940s Day by the TCP but no details of costs or budgets had been made available.

Following a full discussion it was

RESOLVED that:-

- i) the Council seeks information from TCP about the costs and budgets for the events;
- ii) the Council adopts the events subject to receiving a formal request to do so; and,
- iii) the costs be accommodated from the Events budget.

34./22

TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN COMMITTEE

It was reported that actions were outstanding from the last meeting. The Town Clerk undertook to provide information and stated that a meeting was scheduled for 11 July 2022.

RESOLVED that:-

the information be noted.

35./22

TO RECEIVE ANY UPDATE AND DETERMINE ACTION ON THE PROPOSED ONE-WAY SYSTEM AND PARKING RESTRICTIONS GLADSTONE STREET / NICHOLS STREET AND CONSIDER FUNDING THE SCHEME

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The Council has been advised that although there has been a slight increase in estimated costs and taking into account a small number of issues raised through the Road Safety Audit the original target cost of £85,052.18 will be honoured. A final set of drawings has been requested and should be available at the meeting. The previous version is a on the Council's website here Desborough Town Council > Projects > One-way system (Gladstone Street / Nichols Street) <https://desboroughtowncouncil.gov.uk/documents/proposed-one-way-system-consultation-plan/>

The Council is REQUESTED to consider the matter and if so determined to approve the grant in accordance with Section 274 A of the Highways Act 1980 to the Highway Authority to carry out the necessary works.

RESOLVED that:-

in accordance with Section 274 A of the Highways Act 1980 a grant of £85,052.18 be made to North Northamptonshire Council as Highway Authority in order for it to carry out the

necessary works to complete the proposed one-way system and parking restrictions on Gladstone Street / Nichols Street.

36./22 PLANNING AND LICENSING REPORT

36.1./22 TO RECEIVE AND COMMENT ON MATTERS IN THE PLANNING AND LICENSING REPORT

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The Council is REQUESTED to consider making comment on any planning or licensing matter set out in Appendix A (any other applications notified before the meeting will be added to the list).
In connection with application for the conversion of 3 no. commercial units to 6 no. one bedroom flats ([NK/2022/0304](#)) at 47, 47A, 47B Station Road, Desborough concern was expressed at the loss of parking for retail purposes and the absence of any dedicated parking provision

RESOLVED that:-

an objection to the parking provision for application NK/2022/0304 at 47, 47A, 47B Station Road, Desborough be lodged.

36.2./22 TO CONSIDER AND IF SO RESOLVED TO APPROVE SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION TO THE HIGHWAY AUTHORITY FOR PERMISSION FOR DAFFODIL PLANTING UNDER S96(5) OF THE HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

As Members will know, Desborough in Bloom usually plants daffodil bulbs in November at various places around Desborough. Over the years approximately 57,000 bulbs have been planted.

S96(5) of the Highways Act 1980 allows a highway authority to give consent to a parish council to plant trees and shrubs and lay out grass verges in a highway maintainable at the public expense by them. The arrangement for many years has been for Desborough in Bloom to ask the Town Council to obtain such consent on its behalf and for the Council to make the formal request to the Highway Authority. Additionally, Desborough in Bloom must obtain consent from the frontages and landowners. Desborough in Bloom's insurance details have been provided with confirmation of the minimum amount of cover provided of £5 million.

This year, the Council has been requested to seek consent for planting of daffodil bulbs as follows:-

- Outside numbers 227 - 231 Rushton Road
- Rothwell Road, after the farm track on the right side
- High Street opposite Costa Coffee
- In front of Flats nos. 18 and 34 to 54 Gold Street
- In front of Flats nos. 2 to 4 Paddock Lane
- In front of Flats nos. 5 to 7 High Street

The Council is RECOMMENDED to approve the request and to authorise the Proper Officer to approve similar annual requests.

RESOLVED that:-

- i) the request be granted; and,
- ii) the Proper Officer be authorised to approve similar annual requests.

37./22 FINANCE MATTERS

37.1./22 TO APPROVE THE FINANCE REPORT

The finance report having been previously circulated as set out at Appendix B was considered.

RESOLVED that:-

the report be approved.

37.2./22 TO CONSIDER AND IF SO RESOLVED TO APPROVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND NOTE PAYMENTS MADE

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The report set out at Appendix C (to follow) details those invoices and payments for payment, those authorised in accordance with the scheme of delegation, and those where payment is by continuous authority. Details in the report may be updated before the meeting as information is received. The Council is RECOMMENDED to approve payments and note those payments made under delegated authority.

RESOLVED that:-

the payments made and proposed be approved.

37.3./22 TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The Council is RECOMMENDED to approve Annual Governance Statement.

RESOLVED that:-

the Annual Governance Statement be approved and signed by the Chair.

37.4./22 TO APPROVE THE ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The Council is RECOMMENDED to approve the statements.

RESOLVED that:-

the Accounting Statements be approved and signed by the Chair.

37.5./22 TO NOTE THE DATES FOR THE PUBLIC INSPECTION OF ACCOUNTS

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The Council is RECOMMENDED to note the dates fixed for the public rights.

The Town Clerk reported that the dates fixed were 1 July 2022 to 11 August 2022.

RESOLVED that:-

the recommended dates for the public inspection of accounts be approved.

37.6./22 TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The Council is RECOMMENDED to receive and note the report.

RESOLVED that:-

the report be noted.

38./22 TO NOTE THE NEXT PHASE OF THE NATIONAL AIRSPACE MODERNISATION PROGRAMME

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

In 2019 work began on the East Midlands Airport part of the UK Governments' national airspace modernisation programme.

Despite the impact of COVID-19 on the aviation industry, the need to modernise the UK's airspace remains a clear priority for the Government. The potential benefits are significant.

Upgrading airspace is essential for taking advantage of new technologies and can offer opportunities to reduce noise and emissions, enhance capacity, reduce delays, and ensure that aircraft continue to operate to the highest levels of safety.

East Midlands Airport is now working at Stage 2 of the airspace modernisation programme. At this stage, a comprehensive list of route design options will be produced and developed through reference to the design principles that were agreed through stakeholder engagement at Stage 1. A process of engagement will then take place to confirm that our design options have interpreted the design principles correctly and developed options will then be assessed to understand their impact.

For more information about the programme and Stage 2, there is a short video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fsGUUYRyDA8&t=6s>

The Council has been asked to join an online discussion session to update it on the next steps of the design process and hear the Council's views. The sessions are scheduled for the following dates and will be held on Microsoft Teams: Monday 27 June, 2pm-3.30pm and Tuesday 28 June, 10.30am-noon.

The Council is REQUESTED to consider attendance.

RESOLVED that:-

consideration of the matter be deferred to a future meeting.

39./22 TO CONSIDER A RESPONSE TO THE DRAFT HACKNEY CARRIAGE & PRIVATE HIRE POLICY AND CONDITIONS

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The policies of the four former Councils have been reviewed with the intention of having a single policy for the North Northants Council area. Details of the new proposed policy are available here: <https://northnorthants.citizenspace.com/licensing/north-northamptonshire-hackney-carriage/>

The Council is REQUESTED to consider any response.

It was reported that the matter had been withdrawn from consideration at the North Northamptonshire Council meeting.

RESOLVED that:-

consideration of the matter be deferred to a future meeting.

The meeting closed at 21:23

Chairman: _____

Date: _____

Initialed by the Chair: _____

Appendix A

Desborough Town Council
16 June 2022

Planning and Licensing Report

Click the underlined text to go to details of the application on the Planning Portal of North Northamptonshire Council (link is outside the Town Council's control).

NK/2022/0301

Location: 6 Church View Road, Desborough

Proposed development: Single storey rear extension. Replace rear window with double doors and insert windows to both sides

NK/2022/0290

Location: 25 Church View Road, Desborough

Proposed development: Single storey rear extension with render and roof lantern

NK/2022/0304

Location: 47, 47A, 47B Station Road, Desborough

Proposed development: Conversion of 3 no. commercial units to 6 no. one bedroom flats

NK/2022/0165

Location: 4 Mayfield Road, Desborough

Proposed development: Two storey rear extension with timber cladding and roof lantern

NK/2022/0301

Location: 6 Church View Road, Desborough

Proposed development: Single storey rear extension. Replace rear window with double doors and insert windows to both sides

Applications in a neighbouring parish**NK/2022/0308**

Location: The Hermitage, Desborough Road, Brampton Ash

Proposed development: Conversion of single-storey store and ground floor of annexe into 2 no. office units and associated parking and alterations to adjacent front elevation

NK/2022/0021

Location: Bowd Field, Pitch 7, Desborough Road (land West of), Stoke Albany

Proposed development: Change of use of land for the siting of 4 static caravans and 2 touring caravans for residential use, to include hard standing for vehicular parking and bin storage, erection of post and rail fencing

NK/2022/0022

Location: Bowd Field, Pitch 6, Desborough Road (land West of), Stoke Albany

Proposed development: Change of use of land for the siting one static caravan and three touring caravans for residential use, erection of day room, installation of septic tank, hard standing for vehicular parking and bin storage, erection of post and rail fencing and soft landscaping

NK/2022/0023

Location: Bowd Field, Pitch 5, Desborough Road (land West of), Stoke Albany

Proposed development: Change of use of land for the stationing of two static caravans and two touring caravans for residential use, erection of day room, installation of septic tank, hardstanding for vehicular parking and bin storage, erection of post and rail fencing and soft landscaping

NK/2022/0024

Location: Bowd Field, Plot 1, Pitch 3, Desborough Road (land West of), Stoke Albany

Proposed development: Variation of conditions 2, 3 and 4 of KET/2019/0245 in respect of condition 2 approved plans; 3 pitch occupation and 4 quantity of residences and removal of condition 1 time limit

Appendix B**Desborough Town Council****16 June 2022****Finance Report**

| Monthly Bank Reconciliation | | 30/04/2022 | 31/05/2022 |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| Unity Trust Bank Current | | £97,807.37 | £3,119.10 |
| Unity Trust Bank Saver | | £10,000.00 | £10,000.00 |
| CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund | Dividend reinvested April £100.34 May £119.41 | £234,757.36 | £324,876.77 |
| Reconciled Balance | | £342,564.73 | £337,995.87 |

Other income received: room hire £37.00

Appendix C**Desborough Town Council****16 June 2022****Accounts for payment**

Items will be added or adjusted as information is received.

| | Power | Supplier | Description | Reason | VAT | Total |
|---|--------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|------------|--------------|
| + | 1 | Desborough Library and Community Hub | Town Council Office | Office Rent (May) | £0.00 | £666.66 |
| + | 2 | TalkTalk | Town Council Office | Broadband / phone (May) | £4.21 | £25.27 |
| + | 4 | LGSS Pensions and Mr G Thomson | Salaries & all Employment Costs | HMRC, pension and salary payments (May) | £0.00 | £2,996.12 |
| + | 12 | Thistle Loos Limited | Queen's Jubilee | Provision of toilets for Picnic in the Park | £91.00 | £546.00 |
| + | 1 | Desborough Library and Community Hub | Town Council Office | Office Rent (June) | £0.00 | £666.66 |
| + | 2 | TalkTalk | Town Council Office | Broadband / phone (June) | £4.21 | £25.27 |
| + | 4 | LGSS Pensions and Mr G Thomson | Salaries & all Employment Costs | HMRC, pension, and salary payments (June) | £0.00 | £5,737.68 |
| + | 12 | Thistle Loos Limited | Queen's Jubilee | Provision of toilets for Picnic in the Park | £91.00 | £546.00 |
| | 13 | Do the Numbers Ltd | Administration | Internal Audit | £500.00 | £500.00 |
| + | 7 | Luxe Graphics | Queen's Jubilee | Banners and signs | £16.00 | £96.00 |
| + | 7 | Mr G Thomson - refund | Queen's Jubilee | Vouchers for prizes | £21.67 | £130.00 |
| + | 7 | Cllr J French - refund | Queen's Jubilee | Volunteers' refreshments | £16.67 | £100.00 |
| + | 7 | Cllr J French - refund | Queen's Jubilee | Tea and coffee supplies | £20.56 | £155.68 |

Initialed by the Chair: _____

| | Power | Supplier | Description | Reason | VAT | Total |
|---|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------|--------------|
| + | 7 | Elite Industrial Supplies Ltd | Queen's Jubilee | Hi visibility vests | £12.80 | £105.80 |
| + | 7 | CKB Ltd | Queen's Jubilee | Lanyards | £8.25 | £49.49 |
| + | 7 | Alright Jack | Queen's Jubilee | Music | £0.00 | £120.00 |
| + | 7 | Sunshine Playgroup | Queen's Jubilee | Room hire and costs | £0.00 | £300.00 |

+ Paid in accordance with delegated or continuous authority

Duties and Powers

- 1 Local Government Act 1972 s.111 & s.150
 - 2 Local Government Act 1972 s.112
 - 3 Local Government Act 1972 s.133
 - 4 Local Government Act 1972 s.140 & s.140A and s.145 & s.150, Local Government Act 2000 s.101
 - 5 Local Government Act 1972 s.142
 - 6 Local Government Act 1972 s.143
 - 7 Local Government Act 1972 s.144 & s.145
 - 8 Local Government Act 1972 s.144 & s.145, Public Health Act 1936 s.87 TOILETS
 - 9 Local Government Act 1972 s.145
 - 10 Local Government Act 1972 s.150
 - 11 Local Government Act 1972 s.150 & Data Protection Regulations 2018
 - 12 Local Government Act 1972 s.174
 - 13 Accounts & Audit Regulations 2015
-
-